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February 1 2017

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch Secretary Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street, S.W. Washington, DC 20554

RE: WT Docket No. 16-421
COMMENT SOUGHT ON STREAMLINING DEPLOYMENT OF
SMALL CELL INFRASTRUCTURE
MOBILITIE, LLC PETITION FOR DECLARATORY RULING

Dear Ms. Dortch;

The above entitled action should be denied on a number of levels as Follows:

1. There was no prior notice given to any of the residents before this was almost enacted. Underground street construction started with no one's knowledge. The construction trucks in the neighborhoods were unmarked probably 3<sup>rd</sup> party contractors. All of us thought it was one of the cable/phone/FIOS providers upgrading the existing underground utilities. No one knew they were installing underground infrastructure for these cell towers. How did they even get permission to do this? When Verizon was about to lay fiber in our communities, they sent notices to the homeowners advising us of what was going to happen, how they would repair and replace any lawn damage etc. These folks did none of that. That speaks volumes unto itself as to how these Companies were trying to get this done without real due process. I would say it was a very shady and disrespectful way of going about things. It was by accident that one group of community residents had found out about this and posted this discovery on our community bulletin board known as "NextDoor.com"

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- 2. The Need for this has not been sufficiently expressed. The residents that will be affected use Fiber and Cable via their in home Wi-Fi for all things Internet and Mobile Devices.
- 3. My family and the other residents are protesting this obvious intrusion of our property rights, which will significantly have a negative impact on the values of our respective homes as we live in a community with underground utilities for a reason.
- 4. The supposed need/demand as expressed by the applicants does not exist. We have been told the reason for this infrastructure is for future demand and faster wireless speeds. This is not the case as 5G technology so far has not been developed to anywhere near the possibility of being a reality. In addition as stated above the community already has its needs satisfied by the use of Fiber/Cable via Wi-Fi Routers. These applicants have NOT sufficiently demonstrated the need for these cell towers in a community of single family houses whereby the cell towers will be within 30-35 feet of the resident's front door. I can refer you to several articles recently published which say the 5G technology is still a long way off. See below reference article\*
- 5. The applicants at a public forum in late October which was necessitated by the stealth approach these applicants went about trying to gain local zoning approval, was woefully misleading and almost fraudulent. Their presentation never showed the audience what the particular cell towers look like never mind what they would look like in a single family home's front yard.

They showed via a slide presentation, these devices/towers in urban settings (which are where they should be placed based upon the population density in those areas) or on "Cobra Styled" Tall Lamp Posts along major roads or city streets.

They have recently installed these devices in and around our area placing them on utility poles that run along the feeder roads and major arteries to the various subdivision communities. That is OK since there are utility poles already in place. These so called mini-towers will be subject to weather conditions and will use the same fiber network that the very same homeowners are presently using. Basically this is a redundancy, which is not needed nor wanted in our communities, which once again have all underground utilities. This is one of many primary reasons people purchased homes in this area. I can't emphasize this enough!

These applicants have not explained at all why they choose our part of Montgomery County MD which is not densely populated, which has a majority of single family homes.

6. The fact is, these towers are being erected for technology that does not actually exist (5G)\* but as stated during their deceitful presentation, for future data and cellular demand, which statements can only be thought of as flawed thinking.

If it will be some time before these demands and speeds are about to be ready for the general public's use, the technology to broadcast these signals could have changed dramatically by that time, thus this would negate the need for these so called mini towers.

- 7. There is plenty of publicly owned land in between the affected communities whereby standard types of high cell towers (220 ft ht) could be erected whereby no one in the surrounding communities would even notice them, as it would blend in with the natural tall trees. These public lands are not far from electrical services and the very fiber they require, which could power them. In addition, based upon a number articles pertaining to the signaling of 5G, there are issues with "Line of Sight" which is why I suspect their supposed need to have these cell towers every 12 houses. If that is the case why in world would they rush this untested technology until they can develop a better way to transmit this faster wireless signal. It appears they are putting the cart before the horse.
- 8. To re-emphasize, The Communities that this applicant is trying to bully into accepting these towers should already know that even when 5G technology becomes a reality, it still won't be faster or able to carry as much data as the existing fiber networks already installed and in place underground. The FIOS and Cable Providers will be better served to utilize

the 5G speed within their Fiber cables to the in-home routers as many articles have stated and in which the providers intend to do.

I know for myself and many others in our area the data plans on their wireless devices are not being totally used. My household for example has 4 wireless phones, (2 Millennials) and we subscribe to 12 GB of Data per month for all 4. We have averaged 5 GB's of data for 3 years running. There was only one month we got near the limit and that was due to one of the devices being used overseas. Perhaps you have noticed Verizon's latest advertising suggesting to people who don't use much data they can lower their data plans to 5GB if they see their average data consumption nowhere near what they had originally signed up for. Why would they advertise this if there was such a high demand for wireless data? The wireless companies know already for communities such as ours, the data usage is mostly confined to the in-home fiber usage.

In conclusion, these towers are not needed, wanted, and will negatively impact our communities both in terms of aesthetics and most importantly financially, as these Front Yard Towers will decrease the value of the largest asset most of the residents have, which is their primary dwelling unit AKA their Home!

Lastly, the new administration just released executive orders to all Federal Agencies whereby they are mandated to ease up on un-needed regulations or regulations which can negatively impact small businesses and others. I would absolutely believe this comes under this executive order or if not directly, in the spirit of this order. "White House chief of staff Reince Priebus sent a memo to agency heads hours after the inauguration advising them not to issue any more regulations."

There are enough angry and upset residents who will and have already banded together to fight this assault on our individual property rights.

Sincerely

**Bob Canter** 

\*https://www.cnet.com/news/5g-wireless-wifi-mobile-network-fast-internet-high-speed-broadband/

\*From the article above C-Net (I believe they are called unbiased experts)

At Mobile World Congress 2016, Nokia demonstrated how 5G network technology responds fast enough to coordinate toy cars and let them whiz through an intersection without colliding.

Next-generation wireless networks could well make your phone dramatically more powerful and transform everything from driving to entertainment. But to hear the industry players right now, you'd think the 5G revolution is just around the corner. **It's not.** 

Today's technology industry has a remarkable success rate developing new products and services that profoundly transform our lives. You'd be well advised to make peace with your current network service, though, because the 5G revolution is years and years in the future.

The 5G hype reached a fever pitch at the Mobile World Congress tech show here in Barcelona. You can hear promises of 5G-powered drones, watch 5G toy cars race around, see demonstrations of 5G gory details like beam forming and millimeter-wave radio (don't ask), and use virtual-reality headsets to create virtual art with another person linked over 5G. <u>AT&T</u> and Verizon, the two largest US carriers, tried to <u>outdo each other with 5G news</u>.

The idea is to get us all <u>salivating at 5G's prospects</u>, which include a hundredfold speed increase that would let us download full-length movies in seconds, or networks responsive enough to beam augmented-reality graphics onto your car windshield.

## Haste makes waste

There are downsides to tech companies trying to build excitement for next-generation technology. First, customers might be disappointed to find they've got to wait years to join the party. The proper 5G standard is due to be finished in 2018, with the first real networks arriving in 2020. The profoundly new services will come only with widespread installation over the years to follow.

We can learn from history. "Videoconferencing in 2003 was the killer app for 3G," said Forrester analyst Thomas Husson, referring to third-generation network technology that's now old-school. "We're starting to see video all over the place, but it's 12 years later."

A second downside: Releasing 5G before it's fully finished could undermine the technology's usefulness and increase how much you'll have to pay to get it. That's because all makers of chips, network equipment and phones will have to create technology for different, incompatible versions, said Matt Grob, chief technology officer of mobile-chip maker Qualcomm. Lots of small markets means products are more expensive -- and that expense could be passed on to your monthly phone bill.

So until this 5G technology becomes more widely available only a few of the early tech obsessed people will be amenable to paying higher wireless bills.

"A couple operators are taking the role of catalyst, and we support that," Grob said. "But on the flip side, more [5G] versions means more cost."

Another problem with building networks that use prestandard versions of 5G is that your phone might not work up to 5G's potential if you switch to a new carrier or roam on other networks when traveling."